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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 SAN JOSE 002565

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR DS/ICI/CI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/01/2030

TAGS: [ASEC](#)

SUBJECT: HUMAN INTELLIGENCE THREAT REVIEW FOR U.S. EMBASSY
SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

REF: SECSTATE 197763

Classified By: (U)Charge Russell Frisbie; Reason 1.4(c,d)

1. (S/NF) Per request in reftel, Charge chaired a meeting of the Counter Intelligence Working Group (CIWG) to review and discuss the Human Intelligence (HUMINT) threat level at Post. Attending the CIWG were Charge, A/DCM, RSO, DEA Country Attache, ODR Chief and SIMO Chief. CIWG agrees that the current LOW HUMINT threat level for Post is appropriate.

(U) CIWG is providing responses to questions asked in reftel in the order asked:

A. Bilateral relations between the GOCR and the United States: Embassy San Jose enjoys a strong and positive bilateral relationship with our Costa Rican counterparts, especially in the areas of Intelligence and Law Enforcement.

B. (S/NF) Are there security or defense agreements between the two nations? No

C. (S/NF) Liaison exchanges in intelligence or law enforcement? Liaison exchanges exist with Costa Rican intelligence and law enforcement entities.

D. (S/NF) Do the host country law enforcement and security services cooperate in protecting U.S. facilities? Both host country intelligence and law enforcement are very cooperative in the protection of all U.S. facilities.

(U) From questions asked in reftel, from January 2002 to 11/01/2005, Post is providing the following responses:

1. (S/NF) Physical surveillance - No

2. (S/NF) Audio-Video surveillance - No

3. (S/NF) Harassment - No

4. (S/NF) Clandestine entries - No

5. (S/NF) Provocations - No

6. (S/NF) Use of informants and/or cooptees - No

7. (S/NF) Spotting/targeting/assessing operations directed at Americans - No

8. (S/NF) Development or recruitment attempts directed at Americans - No

9. (S/NF) Computer tampering - No

10. (S/NF) Teltaps, mail or e-mail intercepts - No. However, the potential exists that foreign agents may have penetrated the local telephone service provider (ICE).

11. (S/NF) Pouch tampering - No

12. (S/NF) Active measures, press placements, deception - No

E. (S/NF) Critical HUMINT countries present in San Jose:

(S/NF) Russia - small presence - Possibly Co-opted officers working out of Russian Embassy.

(S/NF) Cuba - small presence - Intelligence officers suspected at Cuban Consulate.

(S/NF) Israel - medium presence, Intelligence officers suspected but not confirmed at Israeli Embassy.

F. (S/NF) Although not rated Critical for HUMINT, Venezuela has intelligence personnel working out of their Embassy in San Jose. The scope of operations planned or executed by the Venezuelans is unclear at this time, although it is suspected that operations directed by Venezuela in support of local anti-CAFTA efforts may be ongoing.

G. (S/NF) Are there non-governmental entities present in San Jose, such as drug traffickers or terrorists groups, who either have state sponsorship or have penetrated the host country services, and who are conducting classic intelligence

operations against the U.S. mission in San Jose. No

1H. (S/NF) CIWG Evaluation of current HUMINT threat level:
Post CIWG believes the current HUMINT threat level of LOW for
this Post is adequate. CIWG will report all incidents in the
future that may affect this threat level for HUMINT activity
in Costa Rica.

FRISBIE